

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

Publication No. 157140

ISSN 0012-2874

A magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the
old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers

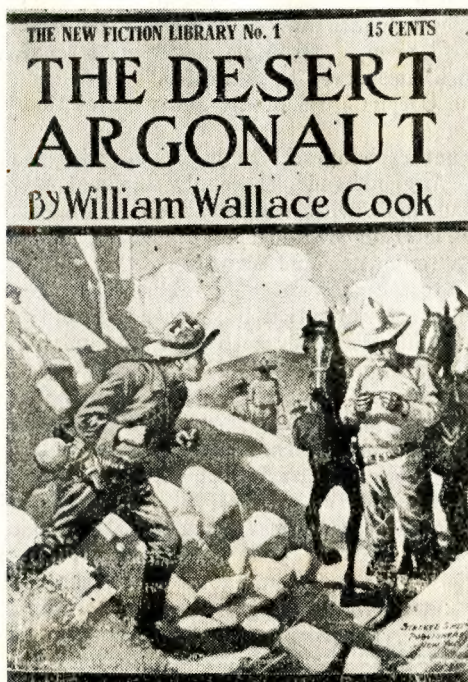
Vol. 50 No. 6

December 1981

Whole No. 552

In Defense Of Horatio Alger, Jr.

Dr. Max Goldberg



DIME NOVEL SKETCHES NO. 224

NEW FICTION LIBRARY

Publisher: Street & Smith, 79-89 Seventh Ave., New York, N. Y. Issues: 41.
Dates: November 1908 to March 1913. Schedule: 1-25 semi-monthly, 26-32
quarterly, 33-41 bi-monthly. Size: 7¼x5". Pages: 300 to 350. Price: 15c.
Illustration: Colored pictorial cover. Contents: Stories of William Wallace
Cook taken mainly from the serials used in Argosy Magazine.

In Defense Of Horatio Alger, Jr.

Dr. Max Goldberg

Abbott in his introduction to his history of Napoleon, in 1855 wrote, "The history of Napoleon was often written by his enemies. This narrative is from one who reveres and loves him." This defense is written by an Algerophile.

In Florence in the 5th century there was a box called "tambure" placed outside the Palezza Vecchie, which was a standing invitation to calumny. One dropped a note in it accusing a person or persons of certain vices or crimes. The accused would be summoned to appear before the judges. No less a personage than Leonardo Da Vinci was accused, but later released. He remained bitter to the end of his life because of this experience. He later wrote, "More are killed by word of mouth than by the sword."

The legal statement, *uieta non moveo* (not to disturb that which is quiescent). But it is quiescent no more. It has erupted into a volcano!

I have been informed that the writing in the church records have faded and are indistinguishable. Let us hope that they will become volatilized in the memory of men and dispersed into oblivion!

Fielding in his book *Jonathan Wild* expresses the effect more poignantly. "It was a calamity to lament . . . an injury never to be repaired . . . a blot never to be wiped out and a sore never to be healed."

The Talmud, the *Corpus Juris* of the Jews, states that "To slander, is to murder."

Human nature never changes. We judge not with reason and logic but with our emotions. Any innuendo, especially a sexual one, is always accompanied by a sagacious smile with a certain feeling that it is true. We have not overcome our Victorian attitude. The strong currents of propaganda sweeps over many a reputation and dispels it. We always give currency to the slanders and not to the answers. "At every word a reputation dies," said Pope. Slander by dint of reputation becomes accepted truth. Ovid, reminds us that "We are a set always ready to believe a scandal."

The slander will always be repeated, in Brewster with Walter Scott's story, "That, I know not how the truth may be I say the tale as 'twas told to me." And in the *Comedy of Errors*, "For slander lives upon succession forever housed where it gets possession." Perhaps Brewster, like Judge Samuel Sewell, should make public declaration of contrition, for their part in the calumny.

There will always be persons, less knowledgeable about Alger's character than we are, who will debate the issue no matter what logic or analysis we present. The physician Oliver Holmes knew that when he wrote, "The bigot is like the eye, the more light it receives, the greater the pupil contracts."

Relative to the apocryphal accusations. Those who have read the church

DIME NOVEL ROUNDUP—Vol. 50, No. 6, Whole No. 552 — December 1981
Publications No. 157140 ISSN 0012-2874

Published six times per year at 821 Vermont Street, Lawrence, Kansas 66044. Edward T. LeBlanc, editor, 87 School Street, Fall River, Mass. 02720. Second class postage paid at Lawrence, Kansas. 66044. Assistant Editor, Ralph F. Cummings, 161 Pleasant St., South Grafton, Mass. 01560. Subscription: \$10 per year. Ad rates—15c per word, \$3.00 per column inch; \$6.00 per quarter page; \$8.00 per half page and \$15.00 per full page.

Postmaster: Send form 3579 to 821 Vermont St., Lawrence, Kans. 66044

records state that the description seems conclusive. What did they expect to find there? Annulment of the charges? They accused and describe the charges. It is easy to describe an immoral act. But whether it OCCURED or was a descriptive imaginary overt act, is something else.

Could the description be written by adult intriguers and the statements by the boys obtained by coercion, intimidation and threats of punishment, by the parents, considering the times?

A witness in a court of law, having a criminal record, is believed with doubt and distrust, why not persons with questionable morals as occurred at that period? We must meet the accusation with an open mind and weigh the pros and cons with evidence beyond a shadow of a doubt. Keep in mind that it is a man's reputation we are dealing with. It takes years to build a good reputation and but a few moments to lose it by an unscrupulous person's accusation!

Let us analyze the accusation. In preparing a defense one must examine all evidence and weigh the reliability of those giving the testimony. Also that in a case over 100 years, with one side heard only, it is necessary to reconstruct the events. We should remember that accusation is neither indictment nor guilt. That allegation is neither evidence nor conviction. That suspects are not criminals unless they are proven by a court of law.

The ACCUSATION — Noted not to engage the Rev. Mr. Alger for the ensuing year. March 8th. Voted to reconsider the foregoing vote. March 9th. Voted to adjourn to Tuesday, March 13th at two o'clock. The following Tuesday an investigation committee was chosen, "to investigate the Parish affair and report to a meeting six days later." At that time the words "to investigate certain reports in relation to Mr. Alger" were substituted for more ambiguous "Parish affairs" and a letter was written to the secretary of the then Unitarian Association in Boston.

The letter announced that Mr. Alger had "recently been charged with gross immorality and a most heinous abominal and revolting crime of unnatural familiarity with boys." The letter said that Alger made no denial or excuses but heard the charges and evidence with "the apparent calmness of an old offender . . . and hastily left town in the very next train for parts unknown, probably Boston."

It was a known fact that the Parishioners were not happy with Alger. He was too young and paid more attention for a plot of a new book than to sermons. He did not preach Hell and Brimstone as was the habit of the day. They planned to get rid of him. But how? On what grounds?

Unqualified? He was a Harvard graduate in Divinity. His preachings were instructive. What can be done? Some one with a bright idea and a twinkle in his eye, asked, "Doesn't he spend a lot of time with the young boys, giving them candy? Notice how he pets them? Others agreed and the plot was hatched. "How about your son, Crocker? So, the committee reported that "they learned from John Clark and Thomas Crocker, that Alger has been practicing on them . . . deeds that are too revolting to relate." It was signed by Elisha Bangs, S. Goyld and Thomas Crocker, committee.

Before going further let us consider the times. Many of us are old enough to remember when the Lord and Master of the home was FATHER. When our father told us to do something good or bad, we did it or off went the belt or whips on our backsides with a vengeance. Who dared to disobey him?

Harriet Beecher Stowe, in writing about her childhood said, "Children were always to obey their parents. One spoke when one was spoken to. We could never speak loud."

So, when Crocker told his son what he should say, the son obeyed or else! The plotters had the boys say "YES" to all questions and the committee acted upon the testimony and made the accusation. It was a clever canard and cabal. All tending to discredit. So Alger was accused by children's statements just as in the Salem witchcraft and thrown in a pit or defamation with malice aforethought. It is said that he who judges another must be above reproach. They were so upset about the moral affect! Let us look into the moral condition at the time.

Cape Cod's Way — Scott Corbett — 1955.

"Rev. Samuel in Eastham, had in his youth an unfortunate experience on Martha's Vinyard, summarizes it. "I did make courtship to Mercy Norton with intent to make her my wife, but I did understand she was of loose behavior and of an ill family. I have had sinful action with her, but I can't say the child is mine." There are more examples, which space doesn't permit. Read the book.

The committee wrote to the American Unitarian Association in Boston. "No further comment is necessary, you know the penalty attached to such unnatural crime. . . Please take such action to prevent his imposing on others." Obviously Dr. Rev. Chas. Lowe took this under advisement. What did Rev. Lowe do? NOTHING. Remember Horatio Alger, Jr. was a minister. If the Rev. Lowe thought the evidence was conclusive, he would have had Alger UNFROCKED! But he didn't. Alger went home to Natick where his parents lived. He had to face his father, who was a martinet and devoted minister. This was the most severe test for him. It made no difference to his father, who it was that did wrong. Even if it was his son, a wrong doer must be punished. Alger's niece stated that "My father was of a lively disposition and loved to dance. My grandfather, (Horatio Alger, Sr.) disapproved of him. He was a very austere person." He didn't like his youngest son Francis, because he liked to dance and sing. Whatever the reason, he must have convinced his father that the charges were false. And his father must have believed him or he could not stay in his house. And we hear no more of the incident.

"Said charges were put to said Alger and he did not deny them." This is conjecture. The gravity of charges must have shocked him. Napoleon gives us the best answer to such a situation, when he states "there are columnies against which even innocence loses courage." And George Eliot concurs, when she states, "A man deep wounded may feel too much pain to feel anger."

I have tried to counter most points of the charges. I am not a Darrow. I have answered the accusations with reason and logic. It may be that conjecture takes the place of authenticity and facts. But in a 100 year case with all persons in the Celestial Kingdom, one can only reconstruct the case as an Anthropologist constructs the descent of man. I hope I have succeeded.

There is no question the charges were cases of collusion and entrapment (framed). People always form opinion on any accusations, even when the defense seems logical, they question the results. Henry Ward Beecher was vindicated in his trial and court of law, but apparently not in the mind of many even today. At best, Alger's case was one of "Condemnation without investigation."

I am not bowdlerizing any accusations. I want to counter every point. It is said that "a leopard never changes its spots." Neither does a "Gay." Neither psychoanalysis nor psychiatric treatment show any results. Once a Gay, always a gay.

For 30 years Alger, Jr. had served the Lodging Home boys, as Chaplain and advisor. The boys were worldly, due to their hard lot. Imagine Alger even insinuating an idea of an aberration, when he had preached to them about morality. They would blackmail him out of New York. Yet for 30 years, not a word of reproach reaches our ears! Take the Seligman instance. Here were five highly intelligent brothers. He lived in their home and tutored them. He played billiards with them. They even played pranks on him. They were quite intimate with him. But not a word comes from them stating anything immoral!

What about the boys in Natick, whom he used to read to in the park. Bought them candy in Bailly's hotel and entertained them. No comment from there. Why? Were the Brewster boys more attractive? "Do not cast away an honest man for a villianous accusation."

I am irked to boredom with the Brewster affair. All seem hearsay. True, times have changed and our attitude towards gays have changed. I could name many ancient and modern writers who were gay. BUT these are proven cases. With Alger it is different. The accusation is only ONE instance and that is hearsay. There is a saying that one swallow doesn't make a summer, neither does ONE accusation in a life time, prove a guilty overt act, especially when it is one sided, with no judicial verdict.

I feel that the preponderance of evidence I have presented will exonerate Alger and vindicate him from the calumny. In conclusion, I feel that the latin legal statement, "Actio non Alterius" (the plantive should not be allowed to prosecute further his action) should prevail. Let us say with the Romans, "Roma locuta, Finite est." (Rome has spoken, the case is closed) AND hopefully with "Presumitur Pro Ree" (it is presumed in favor of the defendant)!!

If I have used profuse maxims to strengthen my defense, I did so as a lawyer, who shows legal precedent on which to base his case.

Judge not!

The clouds of seeming guilt may dim
Thy brother's fame.
For Fate may throw suspicion's shade
Upon the brightest name.
Thou canst not tell what hidden chain
Of circumstances may
Have wrought the sad results that takes
An honest name away.

Judge not!

Judge not!

FOR SALE

Jerry Todd, Whispering Mummy, \$2.00 (2 copies); Jerry Todd, Waltzing Hen in D/J, \$3.00; Jerry Todd, Waltzing Hen, \$2.00 (2 copies); Jerry Todd, Editor in Grief, \$2.00; Jerry Todd, Buffalo Bill Bathtub, \$1.00; Poppy Ott, Stuttering Parrot in D/J \$4.00; Poppy Ott, Stuttering Parrot, \$2.00; Poppy Ott, Pedigreed Pickles, \$2.00; Poppy Ott, Prancing Pancake in D/J \$4.00; Trigger Berg, 700 Mouse Traps \$3.00 (2 copies).

DAN WILLIAMS — 3618 Sierra Pines Drive — Houston, TX 77068

Half Nick Carter and Half Sherlock Holmes

By Robert Sampson

The appearance of the Felix Boyd stories in "The Popular Magazine" should have been celebrated with massed brass bands, fireworks, and free beer.

Boyd was dime novel through and through, dime novel pressed down tight and concentrated, fifty years of dime novel distilled to a single figure. His presence in "Popular" demonstrates that the dime novel strain, vigorous and kicking, had entered mainstream pulp magazine fiction. Considering the social status of these two forms, that is like saying that a ditch digger had found a job as a minor clerk. But it was upward mobility, no matter how slight.

It was 1904, the dime novels' Golden Age, when the February "Popular" published the first Felix Boyd story. As so frequently happened back then, that story was the first of a loosely linked series, collectively known as "Below The Dead Line."

What does "Deadline" mean? It was a line arbitrarily established as a crime control measure by Inspector Brynes, New York City Police. Officially it was the North side of Fulton Street. Any known criminals found south of the deadline, in Wall Street and the Maiden Lane diamond district, would be arrested on sight. Thus the series title.

Felix Boyd was a one-man private consulting detective whose clients—bankers, stock brokers, jewelers—contracted with him for protection against the Forces of Crime that roamed south of the Deadline. These roamed freely, in spite of Inspector Brynes, and so the stories accumulated, month after month.

That first series ran in "Popular" from February 1904 through January 1906. The stories were collected into two volumes of the Magnet Library, the Street & Smith paperback reprint series, as "Below The Deadline" (ML 428) and "On The Trail of Big Finger" (ML 429), both published early in 1906.

The series continued in "Popular" without a break, from February 1906 through January 1908, under the new general title, "The Adventures of Felix Boyd." These adventures were collected into three paper-bound volumes: "The Adventures of Felix Boyd" (New Magnet Library 603), "Felix Boyd's Revelations" (NML 615), and "Felix Boyd's Final Problems" (NML 627).

This was a staggering run. Moderately successful series normally contained from four to six stories. Very successful series, stimulating readers to shouts of glee, might run a dozen stories. Even fifteen. The Boyd series, forty-eight in all, was obviously incredible.

Unfortunately, paper covers do not preserve reputations as surely as cloth bindings. In hardback, Boyd may have received recognition—or more recognition than he currently enjoys, Ellery Queen being one of the few commentators to cite him. As it is, cloth-bound immortality was denied Felix. For all practical purposes he was gone by the 1920's. The story type that he represented—hard-nosed action in realistic surroundings against New York City toughs—lasted into the 1930's. But then the ripple effect goes on forever.

The name signed to the series was Scott Campbell, pen name of Frederick W. Davis. (That's W. Davis, not the F. C. Davis of the 1930's). F. W. Davis, a highly experienced dime novel author, was strongly influenced by the popularity of Sherlock Holmes, then King of the World. Felix Boyd not only embodies many of Holmes' characteristics but the stories, themselves, are strongly flavored with second-hand Doyle.

Here is Boyd at work:

... had there been an observer... he would have seen personified the relentless sleuth of blood-stirring fiction, the man metamorphosed into the hound, with both the hunter instinct and the human acumen stimulated to supernatural activity.

With lips compressed, with features drawn and white, with eyes that gleamed and glittered as if with fever under his knit brows, Boyd threw open the nearest window and looked out...

Dropping to his hands and knees upon the floor, he took a lens from his pocket and began to study the carpet. Inch by inch, foot by foot, yard after yard, he wiggled over the floor, with the lens at his eyes and his face nearly touching the carpet.

Now and then he lingered over some particular spot, now and then a muttered word escaped him, or an impulsive gesture, indicating his constant mental activity; yet, for the most part his work was done with amazing rapidity and in utter silence. (October 1904).

He lacks only Watson and a deer-stalker cap.

Boyd is not nearly as detailed a personality as Holmes. In the first stories, only his "keen, gray eyes" are mentioned. Later we learn that he has thin, firm lips and thin features, forceful and clean cut. It is little enough substance from which to construct a personality. Like Holmes, he smokes a pipe, is a fine actor, and a disguise artist.

He is, of course, blessed with a brilliantly active mind, perceptive, rapid, piercing:

Boyd occupied a class entirely his own... (His) detective acumen was a gift rather than an acquirement, and was not a fair standard for measuring that of others.

Boyd's clients are stuffed shirts, all. Not so his opponents. The people he most often battles are underworld riff-raff—thugs, dissolute ruffians, casual murderers. Since the stories stand on a massive dime novel base, you can be sure that there is swift, violent crime, rapid chases, searches against time, successful disguises, bar-room confrontations with roughs, and climaxes where the guns go off and the wicked drop shrieking. More often than Holmes, Boyd is in physical jeopardy. For that reason, he carries two revolvers and will shoot down his man without hesitation or regret.

The ruffian crossed the foul yard, and pushed open the door of the stable, into which he hurriedly plunged, with Boyd close behind him. The place was damp and lighted only dimly...

Boyd followed for a step or two—then heard the stable door close with a crash behind him. Like a flash he wheeled sharp about, only to quickly dodge the arms and blows of three others...

"Nail him! Nail him, you fools!" Finley fiercely cried as Boyd leaped aside and brought his shoulders to one of the walls. "If he..."

But there his voice was drowned by the ringing report of Boyd's revolver, and one of the gang, who had sprung nearer with a bludgeon, went to the floor with his wrist fractured by the bullet. (August 1904).

The first series is lightly knit together by the lurking menace of "The Big Finger, that obscure genius for crime," whose criminal gangs operate secretly below the deadline. The Big Finger is Boyd's Moriarty.

He is a man of power, of vast criminal resources, a man to be feared, and a man whose misdirected genius one cannot but respect. (September 1904)

For twenty-four stories, Boyd nibbles away at Big Finger's power, confronting him repeatedly, as repeatedly in his power, ever escaping to clash again.

"The Case of the Missing Magnate" (August 1904) tells how a Wall Street financier is kidnapped in an effort to drive down the value of his stock. Boyd deduces that the detective who guarded the financier was part of the plot and takes his usual vigorous steps. He allows the detective to lead him into a trap set in an old stable. There he corners the gang, after some spry work, freeing the financier in time to save the stock market.

The experienced reader, full of acumen, will have already realized that The Big Finger planned the coup. Once more the arch criminal is foiled. It is admitted that, in this case, Boyd had a bit of help. This was supplied by his friend, Jimmy Coleman—a detective out of the Central Office, NYC Police. Coleman was the fellow who came bursting in through the stable doors while Boyd held a pistol on the crooks.

Coleman occupies the traditional position of the slow friend. Not that he is particularly stupid. But Boyd's flashing mind leaves him staggering, and it was, after all, the convention of the period, that all the glory be kept for the lead character. For a secondary character to show the least flush of intelligence would diminish the lead's hot shine.

As a result, Coleman has little to do but hold the door and bubble with fulsome praise, articulating, no doubt, the reader's own admiration for Mr. Boyd.

Coleman: "But if anything has escaped you, Felix Boyd, I'll throw up my commission."

"The Case of the Under Secretary" (September 1904) begins in Boyd's Pine Street office, then flies off to the docks, from which the daughter of the English Consul General has been kidnapped. Working alone, disguised as an Irish cab driver, Boyd traces her across the city, rescues her smart as paint. As soon as the guns stop blazing, in burst Coleman and the police, ready to count the dead and book the living.

Well, as you have surmised, The Big Finger planned that matter, too. Boyd tells us so at the end of the story. Not that it matters. Each story is complete and interesting. To have The Finger's menacing shadow hovering over the series only salts the action.

"The Case of the Boss Mason" (October 1904) concerns a purposeless street explosion and a double murder. The trail leads to a secret subterranean chamber where lurks The Big Finger, himself. He is a hard-faced man of iced gray eyes and a treacherous smile. Sad to report, he escapes Boyd's trap. In pour the cops. But they arrive too late, as cops will, and catch only three minions.

And so it goes.

After The Big Finger and his operations are finally broken up, Boyd finds that routine work has lost its savour—as anyone might who almost got himself killed once a month. So he tosses over the Pine Street office and his limited practice. From now on, he will accept problems all over New York City, and from Long Island, Staten Island, and the Battery, too.

As a result, Coleman sees Boyd so seldom that he is filled with obscure pangs. He wangles a transfer closer to Boyd's new operations, and the friendship proceeds as before—Boyd providing the pyrotechnics, and Coleman carrying in the broom to sweep up the breakage.

"The Crimson Flame" (February 1906) is a large diamond that glares red when viewed at a certain angle. It vanishes from the jewelry store while

being examined by a customer. After the disappearance, she is, also, examined. No soap.

The diamond is completely gone. Gone completely.

It's deeply mysterious.

No, not at all. Boyd locates the stone within ten minutes of arriving on the scene. (It has been attached by chewing gum to the bottom of the lady's chair.) But it isn't recovered for another three or four pages. First, the thief's confederate must be collected and, besides, a Felix Boyd short story normally ran 11½ pages, double column. You just don't end a story on page 9 because the detective is very clever.

The following stories, if somewhat slight, sparkle with impish vitality. "No Waterloo" (August 1906) describes how Boyd tracks down the miscreants who robbed the closed mansion and almost brained the young man with a bottle. "A Transatlantic Crime" (October 1906) opens in the throes of intense overwriting. Boyd is white-faced, sweating, staring, since he has been thinking all through the night. By sheer mental power, he has solved a London theft and is able to collar the crooks before they disembark in New York City. "An Oriental Episode" (Judw 1907) takes him to Turkey to pit his wits against an evil sultan.

There are not many of these overseas adventures. Most stories are set firmly in New York City, described in as intense detail as Doyle ever lavished upon London.

It was at this time, on a warm, unseasonable night, well along in December, that Mr. Felix Boyd finally got at his work.

A damp mist was in the air, lending a sickly yellow glare to the street lights. The pavements were wet and slippery, and all that was left of the last fall of snow lay foul and black here and there in the gutter. (October 1904).

It is half Nick Carter and half Sherlock Holmes: a hyperactive, deducing genius prowls the mean streets, one hand gripping a pistol, the other clutching a disguise. All around him, that vanished world shimmers to hard form: ramshackle stables, clay alleys greasy in rain, over-decorated drawing rooms dense with possessions, construction sites. . .

Here and there upon the ground were bits of rubbish, broken bricks, small pieces of boards and laths, soiled shavings and the like, all of which had fallen from the near building then in the process of construction. The court led into a small open lot, at the end of the new building. In this lot were several mortar beds, with the laborers at work about them; also an accumulation of empty lime and cement barrels, some loose lumber and strips of joist, while near the end of the court was a huge heap of rubbish. . . (October 1904).

Or notice this description of the deep slums, which foreshadows similar descriptions in Frank Packard's Jimmie Dale stories, ten years later (and which would again surface in "The Shadow Magazine" and the "Spider" magazine more than thirty years later).

It was in one of the worst precincts of the city, a veritable haunt of criminals and desperadoes; a section filled with inferior tenements and evil dives, where the wretched houses were so crowded and their vicious inmates so in league, that one familiar with the way could quickly cover a block without emerging to the open street.

Into a dark court, then through a labyrinth of foul alleys, Doyle conducted his companion, and finally led him into a covered passage terminating at a flight of wooden steps. . . (October 1904).

The prose reflects the influence of the period's naturalistic novelists, among them Stephen Crane, Jack London, and Frank Norris. The Naturalists dealt head on with such unpleasant subjects as lives spent in the depths of urban squalor, amid filth and criminality and twisted hopes. Their fiction was detailed, sharp focused, and shocking. Dickens had detailed the same thing, of course, but it is easier to bear another country's miseries than your own.

Similar scenes had appeared for years in various dime novel series, although without the intensity of selected detail or the urge to social reform which heated the Naturalists' prose. So it is no surprise that the Felix Boyd stories borrow the Naturalistic School's manner without adopting its purpose. Scott Campbell is writing adventure fiction, not social criticism. But he contrives to play the hot orange action against backgrounds reflecting social degradation and despair almost inadvertently, as his melodrama hammers along.

This mixture of realistic detail, toughness, and melodramatic action is interesting in several ways. It is a clear example of the dime novel making the transition between a 32-page pamphlet and a family-oriented magazine of general fiction. And it also permits us a sharp look at the hardboiled detective at the larval stage of his development. Felix Boyd may mix Sherlock Holmes and Nick Carter in equal proportions. But he is also a forerunner of characters and literary forms to be more elaborately developed in coming decades. The liteary line of which Felix Boyd is a part would flower in unexpected ways, leading to heroes working outside the law and tough guys clashing on city street—into "Black Mask's" unsentimental harshness and the romanticized violence of the 1930's single-character pulps.

For these, you can't blame Boyd.

He didn't create the trends; he was part of them, way back then, long ago, before the distant future had become the past.

WANTED

The House of Beadle and Adams (vol. I and II)

The following Street and Smith novels:

Select Library 7, 69, 76, 82, 88, 140, 152, 155, 161

Medal Library 16, 32, 44, 63*, 73*, 97*, 107, 109, 110, 115, 250*, 275*, 283

New Medal Library 431*, 484, 493, 511*, 525*, 591, 667*, 673*, 679*, 704*

Southworth Library 15, 150

Eagle Library 101

New Eagle Library 558, 585, 667

Star Library 2, 17

Adventure Library 4, 9, 15, 24, 28, 94*, 101

New Fiction Library 13, 15, 26, 30*

Columbia Library 22, 25, 27, 33, 41, 44

Round the World Library 63, 69, 77, 79

Arrow Library 120

New Magnet Library 11*

Bound to Win Library. Fred Thorpe's "The Boy In Black, Or, Strange Adventures Among Strange People"* (if you know the number of this novel I'd appreciate your letting me know what it is.)

If you are familiar with the story of the novels marked with an asterisk, but don't have a copy for sale or trade; I'd greatly appreciate a one or two line summary of the plot if you could send it.

STEVEN WOOLFOLK

(713-881-7587)

4605 Brookwood NE

Albuquerque, N. M. 87109

FOR SALE

ALL WITH DUST JACKETS

ALLEN, QUINCY, Captain

The Outdoor Chums. G&D Ex. d/j a little ragged ----- \$3.00

AVERY, AL

A Yankee Flier in Italy. G&D Ex d/j VG ----- 3.00

BAKER, WILLARD E.

The Boy Ranchers in Camp. C&L Ex d/j VG ----- 3.00

BEE, CLAIR

Dugout Jinx. Ex. d/j large piece missing ----- 2.00

BISHOP, CURTIS

Fast Break. Lippincott. E xd/j Ex ----- 2.00

BLAINE, JOHN

The Rocket's Shadow. Ex d/j ragged ----- 2.50

BOWEN, R. SIDNEY

Dave Dawson with the Air Corps. Crown. Ex brown covers. d/j VG -- 3.00

Red Randall at Pearl Harbor. G&D. Green covers. d/j ragged ----- 2.50

BRUCE, CHARLES

Uncle John's First Shipwreck, Sampson Low. London. Ex. d/j VG ---- 3.00

BRUCE, GEORGE

Navy Blue and Gold. G&D. Ex. d/j VG ----- 2.50

BURTIS, THOMSON

Flying Black Birds. G&D Ex d/j VG ----- 3.00

Four Aces. G&D Ex d/j VG ----- 3.00

CODY, H. A.

The Unknown Wrestler. G&D VG d/j a little ragged ----- 2.00

CRAINE, E. J.

Canny, the Courageous. World. VG d/j ragge d ----- 2.50

DAWSON, ELMER A.

Garry Grayson at Stanley Prep. G&D. Orange covers. Ex d/j VG ---- 3.00

Garry Grayson's Winning Kick. G&D. Green covers. VG d/j some tears 3.00

DIXON, FRANKLIN W.

House on the Cliff. G&D. Grey with maroon ltr. Thin ed. Ex d/j VG - 2.50

DUFFIELD, J. W.

Bert Wilson, Wireless Operator. No pub.'s imprint. Good, but hinge cracked. d/j ragged ----- 2.50

ELLIS, EDWARD S.

Catamount Camp. Winston. Ex. d/j some minor tears ----- 4.00

FERRIS, JAMES CODY

X Bar X Boys at Rustler's Gap. G&D. Gray. VG d/j VG ----- 3.00

X Bar X Boys in Thunder Canyon. Gray covers. VG d/j ragged ----- 2.50

X Bar X Boys on Whirlpool River. Gray covers. VG d/j Good ----- 3.00

FLOWER, JESSIE GRAHAM

Grace Harolwe's Overland Riders in the Black Hills. Altamus. VG d/j VG ----- 3.00

FREY, HILDEGARD G.

Campfire Girls in the Maine Woods. Ex d/j VG ----- 3.00

HANCOCK, H. IRVING

Dave Darrin's Fourth Year at Annapolis. Altamus. Good, d/j Good ---- 2.50

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. Postage Extra.

EDWARD T. LeBLANC

87 School St.

Fall River, Mass. 02720

Notes On World Syndicate Juvenile Aviation Fiction

Rick Crandall

In my recent article about older juvenile aviation fiction, most of the major series were mentioned. In this note a few of the most interesting printing varieties and errors by World Publishing will be mentioned. Particular attention will be given to information not contained in the Hudson bibliography.

Perhaps the series with the most major varieties are those by Edith J. Craine. The "Airplane Boys" is her most common series. It includes the same titles as the "Sky Buddies" series. In my accumulations, the former series is about three times as common as the latter. Hudson lists eight titles for the Airplane Boys with the first four also published as the sky buddies under modified titles. For instance, "Airplane Boys at Cap Rock" and "Cap Rock Flyers." I can confirm that the fifth and sixth titles were also published by Saalfeld as part of the Sky Buddies series ("At Platinum River" and "With the Revolutionists in Bolivia"). As a further complication, the first four titles were also published as the "Skylarking Comrade Series" using the name M. Delmore Marquith under different titles (observed in blue and green).

Another series by Craine parallels the "Airplane Boys." This is the "Airplane Girls" series with the same titles also published as the "Girl-Sky-Pilot" series with some modified titles as in the "Airplane Boys/Sky Buddies" case. These books are not listed in the girls series checklist published by the University of Minnesota. These titles are "Roberta's Flying Courage," "The Lurtiss Field Mystery," "The Mystery Ship," and "The Mystery of Seal Islands." They are published under the name Harrison Bardwell. One unusual book actually has "E. J. Craine" blacked out on the spine and "Harrison Bardwell" printed underneath.

The bindings for "The Airplane Boys" and "The Airplane Girls" series are very similar and they are also similar to some of the "Air Service Boys" varieties published by World Syndicate. Starting with the "Airplane Boys" bindings, several varieties and color variations are not included in Hudson. Of these it should be mentioned that two of the plain bindings in various colors have indented designs stamped in the front cover. One of these is two lamps sitting on a single bookshelf under which is a ball on two books. The other is an indented triangle, point down, with a deer bounding from each side. The latter design is also used in the "Airplane Girls/GS-P" series. Both are used for some "Air Service Boys" bindings. The "Airplane Girls" also have a red binding with black type, spine stripes and stripe outlined front cover as do the "Airplane Boys" and "Air Service Boys."

One of the more common "Airplane Boys" bindings is red with gold spine letters and gold square on front cover saying "The Airplane Boys." This format is also used for the "Airplane Girls" observed in blue and black with silver type and square and other World series such as the "Mercer Boys" and "Army Boys." The identical red and gold design is used for the "Air Service Boys." The reason we can know that these were issued identically is because I have an unusual "Airplane Boys with the Revolutionists in Bolivia" with an "Air Service Boys" square on the front cover only. (To help date this format I have copies with inscriptions of Christmas 1932 and 1934.)

Varieties not previously noted include an "Airplane Boys" oversized edition with two different size stripes at the top and bottom of the spine and a like pair from top to bottom on the front cover about an inch from the left

side. Green noted without illustrations, red with frontis and Christmas 1939 inscription. The other noticeable variety obtained is standard size, black type and border with the addition of a long torch on the spine. This variety is also noted for the "Air Service Boys" and a book by J. DeVries using several titles such as "The Campfire Girls Flying Around the Globe." A more common variety noted for the Air Service Boys is similar but with a circular design of a sailing ship on the spine.

These series also provide a suggestion of a relationship between three publishers in Ohio. In plain red binding with black type the 5th and 6th titles of the "Sky Buddies" series and the first "Girl Sky Pilot" book are published by Saalfeld using the same plates as World. Saalfeld has also done at least three titles of the "Air Service Boys" in three different colors, with a similar format except for green ink on the cover. In addition, I have an orange copy of "Air Service Boys in the Big Battle" by Saalfeld with black ink and a World dust jacket. More interestingly, the last two "Air Service Boys" titles (. . . Flying for Victory and . . . In the Big Battle) were reissued by Saalfeld using a World 1936 copyright (and the World plates with a new binding) under the new titles, the first as "The Stunt Flyer" and the second as "The Lucky Ace." I also have one "Air Service" title published by Goldsmith using the indented bookshelf format! I have only observed one dust jacket design for any of the "Air Service Boys" World editions, and the same design is used for both the Saalfeld and Goldsmith copies. This is a monoplane with red, white and blue tail flying over a stylized skyline. It also occurs with a gold border and spine, as does the standard overlapping plane jacket for the "Airplane Boys" (illustrated in my recent note).

Another interesting feature of these books is the varieties with double colored frontis plates. "Air Service Boys Over the Enemy Lines" with the stamped in bookshelf design has been obtained with both a black and white and colored frontis using one design and the other side using the colored monoplane described for the dust jacket. More interesting is the "Air Service Boys Flying for France" with indented triangle design with the reverse of the colored double frontis having the SAME design as the paste-on front cover picture used for all the Marquith books (two planes with pilots passing each other a line). A double colored frontis (without black and white one) has also been observed for "With the Revolutionists in Bolivia" (Craine). One side is the common dust jacket featuring four planes and illustrated in my last article. This also has the indented triangle design as does a "Girl Sky-Pilot" title, "The Mystery of Seal Islands." The reverse of this double colored frontis features a striking 30's girl in a cockpit, a design also used for some dust jackets in this series. Colored frontises have also been observed on "Moving Picture Girl" titles and in "Alice in Wonderland," both by World with the indented triangle cover.

I had intended to discuss other interesting varieties by other publishers. However, the interconnections and varieties of these World series make a complicated enough tangle for one note. Of course I am interested in further information or copies on these varieties. For future reference, the largest public collection of these type books is held by the History of Aviation Collection at the University of Texas at Dallas.

THE MYSTERY AND ADVENTURE SERIES REVIEW for Fall 1981 contains interesting articles on the Western Heroes in the late boys series books. Gene Autry, Red Ryder, Roy Rogers, The Lone Ranger.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CAPTAIN CHESTER G. MAYO, USN (Ret.)

On December 11, 1981, Captain Mayo will celebrate his 100th birthday. To this fine gentleman we extend our sincere best wishes and congratulations on a century of superior living.

To summarize a hundred years of living that extends from birth in Burlington, Vermont to a career that stretches around the world to such places as the Philippines in 1901, Japan, Samoa, and back to Huntington, Vermont and London via Washington, Boston, New York and Philadelphia, is a challenge. It encompasses being in charge of the Navy Disbursing Office in Washington with responsibilities for many officers and clerks and billions of dollars, appointment as First Director of the Bureau of the Budget, later as Coordinator for Federal Traffic and Chairman of the Federal Traffic Board, Accounting Officer in the Boston Navy Yard, Disbursing Officer of the Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N. H. and in Brooklyn, N. Y.; during World War II, 4th District Supply Officer in Philadelphia; designing and putting into operation the first cloth-laying machine used in any factory in the U. S.; United States Service decorations from the Philippines Insurrection and the Mexican campaign circa 1914) through World War I and World War II, with commendations from Presidents and Secretaries of the Navy. Top this with a short but successful business career in New York City and the long and impressive list of organizations to whose membership he was elected and we have not just a person who has lived to be 100 years old but a giant in the world of humanity.

As most readers of the Round-Up are aware, mention of the compiling of bibliographies of early magazines in the boys' books field is justification of respect for his meticulous work in historical records and research. He published a comprehensive genealogy of the Mayo family dating from 1600. His collection of Naval memorabilia is worthy of a private museum.

On this occasion, best wishes go also to his cosmopolitan step-daughter, Mrs. Amanda M. Boyden (Lt. Com., Ret., U. S. Naval Reserves) who has been his kind and affectionate companion and has shown so much care and concern for his welfare.

Captain Mayo and Mrs. Boyden are spending this winter in London near Denis and Mrs. Rogers. Perhaps a shower of birthday cards from Round-Up members will help recognize this event—in tribute to our oldest living book collector. (Please write a note telling the Captain of your special interests and where you live and how you came to be a collector.) His address is:

Captain Chester G. Mayo, c/o Denis R. Rogers, 77, Murray Ave., Bromley BR1 3DJ, Kent, England.

And many more happy returns of the day, Captain Mayo!

NEWS NOTES

Ralph D. Gardner's latest book, **HORATIO ALGER**, published by Van Nostrand Reinhold, is one of eleven chosen from thousands of entries by the English-Speaking Union for their 1981 Book-Across-the-Sea program ("to interpret the lives, backgrounds, regions and culture of the United States to people of other countries"). Another book selected is **Publishers for Mass Entertainment in Nineteenth Century America**, for which Ralph wrote a history of Street & Smith.

A Horatio Alger, Jr., postage stamp has been scheduled for issuance during May, 1982 celebrating the 150th anniversary of Alger's birth. The work of many Horatio Alger Society members has come to fruition with this announcement by the Postmaster General's Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee.

NEW MEMBERS

- 374 Mike Moritz, RR 2 Box 143A, Milford, Nebr. 68405
375 Carolyn A. Davis, George Arents Research Library, Syracuse Univ.,
Syracuse, N. Y. 13210
376 John P. Simpson, 6810 20th St. E., Tacoma, Wash. 98424

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- 286 Ms Deidre Johnson, 2329 S. 9th St., B401, Minneapolis, Minn. 55406
326 Fred Woodworth, P. O. Box 3488, Tucson, Ariz. 85722
210 Gary Hoppenstand, 115 Liberty Ave., Bowling Green, Ohio 43403
121 J. Ernest Wagner, Box 25, Madisonburg, Pa. 16852

LETTERS

Dear Ed:

In a recently published book of James Cain's short stories (**THE BABY IN THE ICEBOX** : Holt, Rinehart, and Winston) David Madden (author of Cain's biography) is quoted as crediting Gilbert Patten for the basis of what is described as Cain's best short story (*Pastorale*). The story grew out of a yarn Patten told Cain when Cain was in the process of doing a profile of Patten for the Saturday Evening Post. *Pastorale* was first published in the March 1928 *Mercury* and is described in **ICEBOX** as "an extremely important event in Cain's evolution as a writer of Fiction."

Yours, John Dinan

WANTED —

ZANE GREY JUVENILES (Double paid for dust jackets)

The Short Stop, A. C. McClurg

The Red Headed Outfielder, G&D 1920

Ken Ward in the Jungle, Harper 7-4

Roping Lions in the Grand Canyon. Harper

The Young Forester. Harper

The Young Lion Hunter. Harper

The Young Pitcher, Harper

The Zane Grey Omnibus. Harper

GENE HAFNER

9 Northampton Road, Timonium, MD 21093

Tel. 301-252-3769

WANTED

American Boy Magazine Vol. VIII Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
 Vol. IX Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
 Vol. X Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4

The Farm Journal Magazine. December 1947

Ladies Home Journal. November 1890 and March 1894

Woman's Home Companion. December 1915

Will buy or Trade for in kind.

Paul F. Miller — 4365 Belmar Terrace, Vienna, Ohio 44473 — (216-856-2522)

THOUSANDS OF DIME NOVELS FOR SALE

BOTH COLORED COVERS AND BLACK AND WHITE

Too many to list at one time. Send SASE for listing of series you are interested in and list will be sent as soon as possible. Many series listings have already been prepared. Others will be prepared for those you ask for.

PRICES REASONABLE

For Very good to fine condition	\$3.00 each
Good condition	2.00 each
Fair condition	1.00 each

Specialized items slightly higher priced.

SALE LISTS AVAILABLE for the following series and weeklies. Send SASE and price for lists. Cost of lists will be deducted from first order. Postage stamps accepted.

WIDE AWAKE LIBRARY -----	50c
NICK CARTER WEEKLY -----	20c
PLUCK AND LUCK -----	40c
WORK AND WIN -----	40c
STREET AND SMITH COLORED COVERS -----	50c
TOUSEY COLORED COVERS -----	40c
ARTHUR WESTBROOK PUBLICATIONS -----	50c
BEADLES DIME LIBRARY -----	50c
BEADLES HALF DIME LIBRARY -----	50c
OTHER BEADLE PUBLICATIONS -----	50c

List of other Black and White publications is currently being prepared. Let me know your special wants and I'll try to come up with it.

WANTED

HORATIO ALGER, JR.—All early and 1st Editions. Also Very Good or better reprints (except NY Book and Donahue Publ.) Any Alger paperbacks.
ROY ROCKWOOD—Bomba Series. Very Good or better—C&L Publishers.
FRANK MARTINEK—Don Winslow of the Navy. Very Good in D/J. G&D Publishers. Don Winslow in Ceylon, Rosenow Co. Publishers.
DEXTER ITTY—Boy Swindler Series—Any (Circa 1910-1913)
 Send SASE for my Want and For Sale list. Please send yours.

Please contact: **HANK GRAVBELLE**
 205 Great Road Acton, MA 01720

WANTED WITH DUST JACKETS

Tom Swifts	Knockabout Series
Original Hardy Boys	Boy Inventor Series
Motorcycle Chums	Motor Rangers
Ocean Wireless	Boy Aviators

Dreadnought

Also G. A. Henty Books, Joseph Altsheler Books—Any.
 Palmer Cox Brownies Books.

WANGNER'S BOOK SHOP

9 Midland Ave., Montclair, N. J. 07042 — Tel. 744-4211

FOR SALE — COMPLETE SETS

Shield Weekly (22 numbers) Good condition ----- \$60.00

EDWARD T. LE BLANC 87 School St. Fall River, Mass. 02720

FOR SALE

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. Postage Extra.

ALL WITH DUST JACKETS

BOOKS BY HOWARD R. GARIS

Buddy and His Winter Fun (3) G&D Red. Thin ed. VG d/j Good -----	2.50
Buddy and the Arrow Clue (13) G&D Red. Thin ed. VG d/j Good -----	2.50
Buddy and His Flying Balloon (7) G&D Red. Thin ed. VG d/j Good -----	2.50
Buddy and the G-Man Mystery (20) G&D. Red covers, thin ed. VG d/j, small part missing a top of spine -----	2.50
Buddy and the Indian Chief. (12) G&D Red covers. Thin ed. VG d/j small part missing at lower right corner -----	2.50
Buddy and the Victory Club (19) G&D Red covers. Thin ed. VG d/j VG --	2.50
Buddy at Lost River (14) G&D Red covers, thin ed. VG d/j VG -----	2.50
Buddy at Pine Beach (6) G&D Red covers, thin ed. VG d/j VG -----	2.50
Buddy at Red Gate (17) G&D Red covers, thin ed. VG d/j VG -----	2.50
Buddy on the Trail (15) G&D Red covers, thin ed. VG d/j VG -----	2.50
Curlytops at Uncle Frank's Ranch. C&L. Grey, pictorial cover. Ex d/j VG	3.00

EDWARD T. LE BLANC 87 School St. Fall River, Mass. 02720

Wanted

Seven to fifteen page essays and articles (including character bibliographies) on detective dime novel literature for a proposed collection to be published by Bowling Green State University's Popular Press. Send material (including return postage) to:

GARY HOPPENSTAND

115 Liberty Avenue

Bowling Green, Ohio 43403

Also wanted to buy:

Any numbers of **The Adventure Series**

Boy's Best Weekly: numbers 35 to 58

Old Sleuth Weekly: Numbers 85 to 90, and 93 to 104,
and 185 to 203

FOR SALE

BACK ISSUES OF THE DIME NOVEL ROUNDUP

Nos. 238 to current no.

Except Nos. 271, 294, 296, 299, 311, 312, 397, 411, 442 and 443 which are out of print.

Nos. 238 through 512, 50c each

If bought in quantity they are offered at the following prices.

Quantity	Price
25 to 49 -----	30c each
50 to 99 -----	25c each
100 to 199 -----	20c each
200 and over -----	17½c each

Nos. 513 to current issue \$2.00 each or 6 for \$10.00

Complete set from No. 238 to the current number \$90.00

(Out of print numbers will be xeroxed)

Bibliographic Listings at \$2.00 each

1. Golden Days by Rev. Donald L. Steinhauer
2. Munro's Ten Cent Novels, by Denis R. Rogers
3. Nickel Library, by Prof. Albert Johannsen
4. Good News, Army and Navy Weekly, Half Holiday, The Holiday, by Capt. Chester G. Mayo, USN, Retired
5. New Buffalo Bill Weekly, by J. Edward Leithead
6. Rough Rider Weekly and the Ted Strong Saga, by J. Edward Leithead
7. Nick Carter Library, by J. Randolph Cox
8. New Nick Carter Weekly, by J. Randolph Cox
9. The New Sensation and the Sporting New Yorker, by Ross Craufurd
10. Nick Carter Stories, Part I, by J. Randolph Cox
12. Our Boys and New York Boys Weekly, by Ross Craufurd
13. Nick Carter Stories, Part II, by J. Randolph Cox
14. American Novels, by Denis R. Rogers

AND

Frank Merriwell's All Star Opponents

(A new story about Frank Merriwell by Robert McDowell)

Edward T. LeBlanc, 87 School St., Fall River, Mass. 02720

PAPERBACK COLLECTORS!

SUBSCRIBE TO PAPERBACK QUARTERLY

Paperback Quarterly specializes in the history of mass-market paperbacks. PQ features articles dealing with every type (Mystery, SF, Western, Adventure, etc.) and with every aspect of new, old and rare paperbacks.

Emphasis is placed on the historical research of paperbacks, their authors, illustrators and publishers.

PQ has published interviews with John Jakes, Mickey Spillane, Donald A. Wollheim, Harry Whittington, Kelly Freas, E. Howard Hunt and others.

PQ has published the following articles: The Green Door Mystery, Collecting Armed Services Editions, Avon's Murder Mystery Monthly, J. R. R. Tolkien: The War Over Middle Earth, Paperback Movie Editions, The Penguin Story, The Saint Mystery Library, Alfred Hitchcock Paperbacks, Rex Stout in Dell Mapback, Paperback Bodies, Collecting Original Paperback Cover Art and much, much more.

Paperback Quarterly is published in Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter of each year with a subscription rate of \$8.00 per year. Library subscriptions are \$10.00 per year. Overseas rate is \$12.00.

SUBSCRIBE NOW

**Paperback Quarterly
1710 Vincent St.
Brownwood, Texas 76801**

Specializing in the History of Mass-Market Paperbacks